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SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Djamel MOKTEFI (Algeria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 9th, 10th, 14th, 16th and 46th meetings, on 20, 21, 27 and 29 October and 22 December 1997. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/50/SR.9, 10, 14, 16 and 46).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Committee on Contributions.[1]

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/52/L.17

4. At the 46th meeting, on 22 December 1997, the Chairman introduced and orally revised a draft resolution entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" (A/C.5/52/L.17).

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 11 and corrigenda (A/51/11 and Corr.1 and 2).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.17 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

A

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the obligation of Member States, under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations, to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle that the expenses of the Organization should be apportioned among Member States, broadly according to their capacity to pay in accordance with rule 160 of its rules of procedure,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Contributions,[2]

1. Decides that the scale of assessments for the period 1998-2000 shall be based on the following elements and criteria:

(a) Data on the gross national product;

(b) A statistical base period of six years;

(c) Conversion rates as recommended by the Committee on Contributions;[1]

(d) A debt burden adjustment in 1998 based on actual principal repayments and in 1999 and 2000 on the debt adjustment approach employed in the scale of assessments for the period 1995-1997;

(e) A low per capita income adjustment, with a per capita income limit of the average world per capita income for the statistical base period and a gradient of 80 per cent;

(f) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(g) A ceiling rate of 25 per cent;

(h) Individual rates of assessment of the least developed countries not to exceed the current level of 0.01 per cent;

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[2] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 11 and corrigenda (A/51/11 and Corr.1 and 2).

(i) The phasing out of the scheme of limits in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/223 B of 23 December 1993;

(j) In phasing out the scheme of limits before the year 2001, the allocation of additional points resulting therefrom to developing countries benefiting from its application, limited to 15 per cent of the effect of the phase-out;

(k) The limitation referred to in paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 51/212 B of 3 April 1997;

2. Resolves that the scale of assessments for the contributions of Member States to the regular budget of the United Nations for the years 1998, 1999 and 2000 shall be as follows:

Member State	1998	1999	2000
		(Percentage)	
Afghanistan	0.004	0.003	0.003
Albania	0.003	0.003	0.003
Algeria	0.116	0.094	0.086
Andorra	0.004	0.004	0.004
Angola	0.010	0.010	0.010
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.002	0.002
Argentina	0.768	1.024	1.103
Armenia	0.027	0.011	0.006
Australia	1.471	1.482	1.483
Austria	0.935	0.941	0.942
Azerbaijan	0.060	0.022	0.011
Bahamas	0.015	0.015	0.015
Bahrain	0.018	0.017	0.017
Bangladesh	0.010	0.010	0.010
Barbados	0.008	0.008	0.008
Belarus	0.164	0.082	0.057
Belgium	1.096	1.103	1.104
Belize	0.001	0.001	0.001
Benin	0.002	0.002	0.002
Bhutan	0.001	0.001	0.001
Bolivia	0.008	0.007	0.007
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.005	0.005	0.005
Botswana	0.010	0.010	0.010
Brazil	1.514	1.470	1.471
Brunei Darussalam	0.020	0.020	0.020
Bulgaria	0.045	0.019	0.011
Burkina Faso	0.002	0.002	0.002
Burundi	0.001	0.001	0.001
Cambodia	0.001	0.001	0.001
Cameroon	0.014	0.013	0.013
Canada	2.825	2.754	2.732
Cape Verde	0.001	0.002	0.002
Central African Republic	0.002	0.001	0.001
Chad	0.001	0.001	0.001

Member State	1998	1999	2000
		(Percentage)	
Chile	0.113	0.131	0.136
China	0.901	0.973	0.995
Colombia	0.108	0.109	0.109
Comoros	0.001	0.001	0.001
Congo	0.003	0.003	0.003
Costa Rica	0.017	0.016	0.016
Côte d'Ivoire	0.012	0.009	0.009
Croatia	0.056	0.036	0.030
Cuba	0.039	0.026	0.024
Cyprus	0.034	0.034	0.034
Czech Republic	0.169	0.121	0.107
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.031	0.019	0.015
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.008	0.007	0.007
Denmark	0.687	0.691	0.692
Djibouti	0.001	0.001	0.001
Dominica	0.001	0.001	0.001
Dominican Republic	0.016	0.015	0.015
Ecuador	0.022	0.020	0.020
Egypt	0.069	0.065	0.065
El Salvador	0.012	0.012	0.012
Equatorial Guinea	0.001	0.001	0.001
Eritrea	0.001	0.001	0.001
Estonia	0.023	0.015	0.012
Ethiopia	0.007	0.006	0.006
Fiji	0.004	0.004	0.004
Finland	0.538	0.542	0.543
France	6.494	6.540	6.545
Gabon	0.018	0.015	0.015
Gambia	0.001	0.001	0.001
Georgia	0.058	0.019	0.007
Germany	9.630	9.808	9.857
Ghana	0.007	0.007	0.007
Greece	0.368	0.351	0.351
Grenada	0.001	0.001	0.001
Guatemala	0.019	0.018	0.018
Guinea	0.003	0.003	0.003
Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001	0.001
Guyana	0.001	0.001	0.001
Haiti	0.002	0.002	0.002
Honduras	0.004	0.003	0.003
Hungary	0.119	0.120	0.120
Iceland	0.032	0.032	0.032
India	0.305	0.299	0.299
Indonesia	0.173	0.184	0.188
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.303	0.193	0.161
Iraq	0.087	0.045	0.032
Ireland	0.223	0.224	0.224
Israel	0.329	0.345	0.350

Member State	1998	1999	2000
		(Percentage)	
Italy	5.394	5.432	5.437
Jamaica	0.006	0.006	0.006
Japan	17.981	19.984	20.573
Jordan	0.008	0.006	0.006
Kazakhstan	0.124	0.066	0.048
Kenya	0.007	0.007	0.007
Kuwait	0.154	0.134	0.128
Kyrgyzstan	0.015	0.008	0.006
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.001	0.001	0.001
Latvia	0.046	0.024	0.017
Lebanon	0.016	0.016	0.016
Lesotho	0.002	0.002	0.002
Liberia	0.002	0.002	0.002
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0.160	0.132	0.124
Liechtenstein	0.005	0.006	0.006
Lithuania	0.045	0.022	0.015
Luxembourg	0.066	0.068	0.068
Madagascar	0.003	0.003	0.003
Malawi	0.002	0.002	0.002
Malaysia	0.168	0.180	0.183
Maldives	0.001	0.001	0.001
Mali	0.003	0.002	0.002
Malta	0.014	0.014	0.014
Marshall Islands	0.001	0.001	0.001
Mauritania	0.001	0.001	0.001
Mauritius	0.009	0.009	0.009
Mexico	0.941	0.980	0.995
Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.001	0.001	0.001
Monaco	0.003	0.004	0.004
Mongolia	0.002	0.002	0.002
Morocco	0.041	0.041	0.041
Mozambique	0.002	0.001	0.001
Myanmar	0.009	0.008	0.008
Namibia	0.007	0.007	0.007
Nepal	0.004	0.004	0.004
Netherlands	1.619	1.631	1.632
New Zealand	0.221	0.221	0.221
Nicaragua	0.002	0.001	0.001
Niger	0.002	0.002	0.002
Nigeria	0.070	0.040	0.032
Norway	0.605	0.610	0.610
Oman	0.050	0.051	0.051
Pakistan	0.060	0.059	0.059
Palau	0.001	0.001	0.001
Panama	0.016	0.013	0.013
Papua New Guinea	0.007	0.007	0.007
Paraguay	0.014	0.014	0.014
Peru	0.085	0.095	0.099
Philippines	0.077	0.080	0.081

Member State	1998	1999	2000
		(Percentage)	
Poland	0.251	0.207	0.196
Portugal	0.368	0.417	0.431
Qatar	0.033	0.033	0.033
Republic of Korea	0.955	0.994	1.006
Republic of Moldova	0.043	0.018	0.010
Romania	0.102	0.067	0.056
Russian Federation	2.873	1.487	1.077
Rwanda	0.002	0.001	0.001
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001	0.001	0.001
Saint Lucia	0.001	0.001	0.001
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.001	0.001
Samoa	0.001	0.001	0.001
San Marino	0.002	0.002	0.002
Sao Tome and Principe	0.001	0.001	0.001
Saudi Arabia	0.594	0.569	0.562
Senegal	0.006	0.006	0.006
Seychelles	0.002	0.002	0.002
Sierra Leone	0.001	0.001	0.001
Singapore	0.167	0.176	0.179
Slovakia	0.053	0.039	0.035
Slovenia	0.060	0.061	0.061
Solomon Islands	0.001	0.001	0.001
Somalia	0.001	0.001	0.001
South Africa	0.365	0.366	0.366
Spain	2.571	2.589	2.591
Sri Lanka	0.013	0.012	0.012
Sudan	0.009	0.007	0.007
Suriname	0.004	0.004	0.004
Swaziland	0.002	0.002	0.002
Sweden	1.099	1.084	1.079
Syrian Arab Republic	0.062	0.064	0.064
Tajikistan	0.008	0.005	0.004
Thailand	0.158	0.167	0.170
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.005	0.004	0.004
Togo	0.002	0.001	0.001
Trinidad and Tobago	0.018	0.017	0.016
Tunisia	0.028	0.028	0.028
Turkey	0.440	0.440	0.440
Turkmenistan	0.015	0.008	0.006
Uganda	0.004	0.004	0.004
Ukraine	0.678	0.302	0.190
United Arab Emirates	0.177	0.178	0.178
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	5.076	5.090	5.092
United Republic of Tanzania	0.004	0.003	0.003
United States of America	25.000	25.000	25.000
Uruguay	0.049	0.048	0.048
Uzbekistan	0.077	0.037	0.025

Member State	1998	1999	2000
		(Percentage)	
Vanuatu	0.001	0.001	0.001
Venezuela	0.235	0.176	0.160
Viet Nam	0.010	0.007	0.007
Yemen	0.010	0.010	0.010
Yugoslavia	0.060	0.034	0.026
Zambia	0.003	0.002	0.002
Zimbabwe	0.009	0.009	0.009
Total	100.000	100.000	100.000

3. Resolves also that:

(a) Notwithstanding the terms of regulation 5.5 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, the Secretary-General shall be empowered to accept, at his discretion and after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions, a portion of the contributions of Member States for the calendar years 1998, 1999 and 2000 in currencies other than United States dollars;

(b) In accordance with regulation 5.9 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, States which are not Members of the United Nations but which participate in certain of its activities shall be called upon to contribute towards the 1998, 1999 and 2000 expenses of the Organization on the basis of the following rates:

Non-member State	Percentage
Holy See	0.001
Nauru	0.001
Switzerland	1.215
Tonga	0.001

These rates represent the basis for the calculation of the flat annual fees to be charged to non-member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/197 B of 21 December 1989.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/207 B of 11 April 1996,

1. Reaffirms the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly, and urges all Member States to pay their

assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions, to avoid the financial difficulties being experienced by the Organization;

2. Takes note of the observations of the Committee on Contributions[3] concerning the procedural aspects of the consideration of requests for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. Calls upon Member States requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to provide the Committee on Contributions with the fullest possible information for its review of such requests, bearing in mind the observations in paragraphs 14 and 15 of the report of the Committee;[2]

4. Requests the Committee on Contributions to keep under review the procedural aspects of the consideration of requests for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter and to make recommendations thereon, as appropriate;

5. Also requests the Committee on Contributions to review current procedures for the application of Article 19 of the Charter, including the possibility of calculating and applying it at the beginning of each calendar year and at the beginning of the peacekeeping financial period on 1 July of each year, and to make recommendations thereon, as appropriate, to the General Assembly before the end of its fifty-third session.

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/223 C of 23 December 1993, 49/19 A of 29 November 1994 and 51/212 B of 3 April 1997,

Recalling also the reports of the Committee on Contributions on its thorough and comprehensive review of all aspects of the methodology for preparation of the scale of assessments with a view to making it stable, simpler and more transparent while continuing to base it on reliable, verifiable and comparable data,[4]

Having considered the report of the Committee on Contributions,[2]

Takes note of the intention of the Committee on Contributions to review all elements of the scale methodology, including the base period, conversion rates, low per capita income adjustment (including the issue of discontinuity) and annual recalculation, and requests the Committee to take the views expressed by Member States into account.

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[3] Ibid., Supplement No. 11 (A/51/11), sect. III.A.

[4] Ibid., Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 11 and addendum (A/50/11 and Add.2).

D

The General Assembly,

Decides, without prejudice to rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to consider reviewing the scale for the years 1999-2000 during its resumed fifty-second session, in the light of all relevant factors, including the periodic reports of the Secretary-General on the status of contributions, and to make a determination in this respect early enough to refer this matter to the Committee on Contributions during the fifty-second session of the General Assembly.